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(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): MISRA, Manoranjan [US/US]; 20 Scattergun Circle, Reno, NV 89509 (US).  
FUERSTENAU, Maurice, C. [US/US]; 1721 Foster Drive, Reno, NV 89509 (US).

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(74) Agents: DOUGHTY, Susan, K. et al.; Greenlee, Winner and Sullivan, P.C., 5370 Manhattan Circle, Suite 201, Boulder, CO 80303 (US).

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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM OF NEVADA [US/US]; Office of Technology Liaison/321, 1664 N. Virginia, Reno, Reno, NV 89557 (US).

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(54) Title: CATALYZED DISSOLUTION OF COPPER FROM SULFUR-CONTAINING COPPER MINERALS

(57) Abstract: Leaching of copper from minerals containing sulfur and copper is hampered by the formation of sulfur on the surface of the mineral during conventional processing. An improved method for extracting copper from a sulfur-containing copper mineral is provided, comprising adding a lixiviant and a silica-containing or titanium-containing compound to a sulfur-containing copper mineral.